

WIDA Focus - Week of January 22, 2014

Important Announcements:

English Learner (EL) Student Identification in Michigan Student Data System (MSDS)

All students who are scheduled to take the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners (WIDA ACCESS for ELLs) or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs **MUST** be identified as needing EL services in MSDS by April 30th. Any student who has taken these assessments and is not identified in this manner will have their scores invalidated. Please contact your district's student information system manager or the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) at (517) 335-0505 if you have questions pertaining to MSDS.

Additionally, ALL students who have been identified in MSDS as needing EL services, at any point this year, **MUST** take the WIDA ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs.

Initial Materials

Initial materials for the Spring 2014 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs will arrive in districts the week of February 3rd. Materials will be coming directly from MetriTech (WIDA materials and scoring contractor). These materials were automatically ordered for districts based on Pre-ID information. Districts will receive a 10% overage of materials to accommodate any students who were added after the January 14th Pre-ID deadline.

Additional Materials

After taking inventory of initial materials during the week of February 3rd, districts may still need additional materials during the testing window. Additional materials may be ordered directly from MetriTech via fax, phone, or email. Instructions on how to order additional materials will be included in the initial material shipment. Additional order materials **MUST** only be used to order materials for any students who enrolled in the district after January 14th, 2014.

Barcode Labels

All students pre-identified to take the Spring 2014 WIDA ACCESS for ELLs by January 14th will receive barcode labels with the initial materials. Students identified after January 14th will not receive barcode labels. For students that do not receive barcode labels, demographic information **MUST** be hand-bubbled on the student test booklets. Instructions on how to hand-bubble demographic information on the student test booklets will be included in the initial material shipment.

Testing Window

The Spring 2014 WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs testing window is **February 10th to March 28th**.

New WIDA Assessment Documents:

Available January 21 at www.michigan.gov/wida – WIDA ACCESS and Alternate ACCESS for ELLs Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – Includes information on who can administer the assessment, who should test, etc.

Your Current Assessment Coordinator Checklist:

- View/Ensure staff has completed the **REQUIRED** online training modules that must be completed in order to administer the WIDA ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs. Test administrators must achieve an 80% on

each quiz associated with the modules in order to receive their certificate of completion and approval for administration. Please refer to the [2013-2014 WIDA Professional Development Plan and Calendar](#) for information on how to create training accounts and which modules to watch. It is only necessary to complete the sets of modules for which a test administrator will actually be administering. For example, if a test administrator will not be administering the Kindergarten version of the WIDA ACCESS for ELLs, then this required module can be waived.

- Create assessment calendar/schedule for students and classrooms.
- Identify students who may need accommodations for the WIDA ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs. Refer to the [Assessment Accommodations Summary Table](#) and [related Frequently Asked Questions](#) document for more information.
- Prepare for assessment materials to arrive at the district the **week of February 3rd** by alerting appropriate staff of expected shipments.
- Take inventory of initial materials during the **week of February 3rd**. If additional materials are needed during the testing window, they may be ordered directly from MetriTech via fax, phone, or email. Instructions on how to order additional materials will be included in the initial material shipment.
- Ensure that standard enrollment protocol is followed for any students entering the district during the Spring WIDA testing window. Students should be screened with the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT), if necessary based on Home Language Survey responses, and then the WIDA ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS administered if the student is found eligible for EL services.
- Work with student information system manager in your district to ensure all students who are scheduled to take the WIDA ACCESS or Alternate ACCESS for ELLs are identified as needing EL services in MSDS. This must be completed by April 30th.

Training/Professional Development:

We have confirmed a date with WIDA to host the Michigan Department of Education sponsored WIDA Alternate ACCESS for ELLs training. This rescheduled event will be held on **Friday, January 31st, 2014** from **8:30 - 3:00** at the Michigan Department of Education, Hannah Building, in downtown Lansing. Interested participants should contact Cristina Rodriguez at rodriguezc@michigan.gov.

Open Q/A sessions with OSA staff are available throughout the remainder of January and February. Please check the Professional Development Plan and Calendar on the www.michigan.gov/wida website for more information.

Contact Information:

Please call 1-877-560-8378, Option 4 or e-mail baa@michigan.gov with any questions.

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